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(Washington, DC)-Today, Congressman Ryan applauded the announcement that Ohio's unemployment rate has slipped from its highest level in more than 26 years.

For Ohio's 17th District, the job market showed improvement in April, with unemployment reduced in all four counties: Mahoning, Portage, Summit and Trumbull.

"The drop in state and local unemployment is a clear sign that our efforts to repair this economy are starting to pay off," stated Congressman Ryan. "We still have a lot of work to do, but this is definitely a great start towards putting Americans – and Ohioans – back to work."

Ryan added, "You can't be alive and breathing and paying the least bit of attention and not think that the stimulus package has helped the economic recovery."

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services reported that the number of workers unemployed in Ohio last month was 652,000, down from 656,000 in March. Federal officials say Ohio was the state with the largest hiring gain last month. This follows the recent news that the State of Ohio created the most jobs in the nation during the same month.

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